

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-9 (canceled)

1 10 (previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid that encodes an Uncoupling
2 Protein 2 (UCP2) polypeptide, wherein the codon of said nucleic acid corresponding to the
3 codon encoding amino acid residue 55 (Ala) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a member selected from the
4 group consisting of GCT, GCC, GCA, and GCG, wherein the codon corresponding to the codon
5 encoding amino acid residue 219 (Thr) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a member selected from the group
6 consisting of ACT, ACC, ACA, and ACG, and wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to a
7 promoter.

1 11 (original): An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a UCP2 polypeptide in
2 accordance with claim 10, wherein said nucleic acid is contained in an expression vector.

1 12 (previously presented): An expression vector containing a nucleic acid
2 encoding an Uncoupling Protein 2 (UCP2) polypeptide in operative association with a regulatory
3 element that controls expression of the nucleic acid in a host cell, wherein the codon of said
4 nucleic acid corresponding to the codon encoding amino acid residue 55 (Ala) of SEQ ID NO:1
5 is a member selected from the group consisting of GCT, GCC, GCA, and GCG, and wherein the
6 codon corresponding to the codon encoding amino acid residue 219 (Thr) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a
7 member selected from the group consisting of ACT, ACC, ACA, and ACG.

1 13 (previously presented): A cell comprising a recombinant nucleic acid
2 encoding an Uncoupling Protein 2 (UCP2) polypeptide, wherein the codon of said nucleic acid
3 corresponding to the codon encoding amino acid residue 55 (Ala) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a member
4 selected from the group consisting of GCT, GCC, GCA, and GCG, and wherein the codon

5 corresponding to the codon encoding amino acid residue 219 (Thr) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a member
6 selected from the group consisting of ACT, ACC, ACA, and ACG.

1 14 (original): A cell in accordance with claim 13, wherein said recombinant
2 nucleic acid is in operative association with a regulatory element that controls the expression of
3 the nucleic acid in a host cell.

1 15 (previously presented): A method of making an Uncoupling Protein 2 (UCP2)
2 polypeptide, said method comprising:

3 introducing a nucleic acid encoding a UCP2 polypeptide into a host cell or
4 cellular extract, wherein the codon of said nucleic acid corresponding to the codon encoding
5 amino acid residue 55 (Ala) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a member selected from the group consisting of
6 GCT, GCC, GCA, and GCG, and wherein the codon corresponding to the codon encoding amino
7 acid residue 219 (Thr) of SEQ ID NO:1 is a member selected from the group consisting of ACT,
8 ACC, ACA, and ACG;

9 incubating said host cell or cellular extract under conditions such that said UCP2
10 polypeptide is expressed in said host cell or cellular extract; and

11 recovering said UCP2 polypeptide from said host cell or cellular extract.

16-23 (canceled)

1 24 (previously presented): The nucleic acid of claim 10, wherein said codon
2 corresponding to codon 55 of SEQ ID NO:1 is GCC.

1 25 (previously presented): The nucleic acid of claim 10, wherein said codon
2 corresponding to codon 219 of SEQ ID NO:1 is ACT.

1 26 (previously presented): The nucleic acid of claim 10, wherein the UCP2
2 polypeptide has the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1.

- 1 27 (previously presented): The nucleic acid of claim 10, wherein the nucleic acid
2 has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2.